

REMARKS

Claims 1-40 are pending in the instant application.

Claims 6, 20, and 32 have been cancelled herewith, without prejudice.

Claims 1, 15, and 27 have been amended herewith.

Claims 41, 42, and 43 have been added herewith.

New claims 41, 42, and 43, have been added to more specifically define the resins in component (c), and to provide for a waterfast composition and method of using same wherein the UV curable resin is selected from the group consisting of a urethane resin, an acrylic resin, and a polyester resin.

Support for the amendments to Claims 1, 15, and 27 is found in the specification at least at pages 1, and 5-10. Support for new Claims 41, 42, and 43 can be found in the corresponding original claims and in the specification at least at page 1, and 5-10. Applicant submits that none of the claim amendments and none of the new claims introduce any new subject matter

Claims 1, 5, 8-13, 15, 19, 22-25, 27, 31, 34-37 and 39-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hiromichi (EP 0 953 613 A2).

Claims 1-5, 7-19, 21-31, and 33-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tanabe *et al.* (EP 1 036 831 A1).

Claims 1-6, 8-15, 19-20, 22-32, and 34-39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Laskin *et al.* (WO 00/3440 A1).

**Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)**

Claims 1, 5, 8-13, 15, 19, 22-25, 27, 31, 34-37 and 39-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hiromichi (EP 0 953 613 A2). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and requests withdrawal of same.

Applicant's invention as amended provides a waterfast ink jet composition comprising an aqueous carrier medium, a colorant, a UV curable resin dilutable in said aqueous carrier medium, and a photoinitiator, wherein said resin is not an epoxy resin, as well as methods of making and using same.

Hiromichi discloses an ink for ink jet recording comprising a coloring agent, a polymerizable oligomer, an initiator, and water.

Hiromichi does not disclose waterfast ink jet ink compositions containing a UV curable resin, wherein said UV curable resin is dilutable in an aqueous carrier medium, wherein said resin is not an epoxy resin as provided by Applicant's invention. Further, Applicant's invention does not require a polymerizable oligomer as required by Hiromichi.

New claims 41, 42, and 43 also distinguish over Hiromichi for the same reasons provided above.

All elements of Applicant's invention are not provided in Hiromichi. Therefore, Applicant's invention is not anticipated by Hiromichi. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 1-5, 7-19, 21-31, and 33-40 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tanabe *et al.* (EP 1 036 831 A1). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and requests withdrawal of same.

Applicant's invention as amended provides a waterfast ink jet composition comprising an aqueous carrier medium, a colorant, a UV curable resin dilutable in said aqueous carrier medium, and a photoinitiator, wherein said resin is not an epoxy resin, as well as methods of making and using same.

Tanabe discloses a photocurable ink composition comprising a colorant, a urethane oligomer, a monomer, an initiator, and an aqueous solvent.

Tanabe does not disclose waterfast ink jet ink compositions containing a UV curable resin wherein said UV curable resin is dilutable in an aqueous carrier medium, and wherein said resin is not an epoxy resin as provided by Applicant's invention. Further, Applicant's invention does not employ a monomer as required by Tanabe.

New claims 41, 42, and 43 also distinguish over Tanabe for the same reasons provided above.

All elements of Applicant's invention are not provided in Tanabe. Therefore, Applicant's invention is not anticipated by Tanabe. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 1-6, 8-15, 19-20, 22-32, and 34-39 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Laskin *et al.* (WO 00/3440 A1). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and requests withdrawal of same.

Applicant's invention as amended provides a waterfast ink jet composition comprising an aqueous carrier medium, a colorant, a UV curable resin dilutable in said aqueous carrier medium, and a photoinitiator, wherein said resin is not an epoxy resin, as well as methods of making and using same.

Laskin discloses a curable polymerizable composition containing an aqueous solution of a cationic polymerizable compound including epoxies, water, and a cationic initiator. Laskin does not disclose waterfast ink jet ink compositions containing a UV curable resin dilutable in said aqueous carrier medium, and a photoinitiator, wherein said resin is not an epoxy resin as provided by Applicant's invention, nor does Laskin disclose a colorant as required by Applicant's invention.

New claims 41, 42, and 43 also distinguish over Laskin for the same reasons provided above.

All elements of Applicant's invention are not provided in Laskin. Therefore, Applicant's invention is not anticipated by Laskin. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.


CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that now pending Claims 1-43 are patentable over Hiromichi, Tanabe, and Laskin as provided above. Applicant requests withdrawal of the rejections.

Respectfully submitted,

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